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## *Memorandum*

TO: BATA Oversight Committee

DATE: April 2, 2008

FR: Deputy Executive Director

RE: Contract – Automatic Vehicle Identification (AVI) System Tuning: Sirit, Inc.

### **Background**

The FasTrak® electronic toll collection system was designed in 1997 and fully deployed on all seven state-owned toll bridges in 2001. A key component of electronic toll collection system is the Automatic Vehicle Identification (AVI) System that is comprised of antennas mounted under the canopies of each of the seven state-owned toll plazas. The antennas read the toll tags as vehicles pass through a lane. The antennas currently in use in all regular toll lanes were part of the original system deployment twelve years ago and have not undergone extensive inspection, documentation and testing of all in-lane components since that time. The Automatic Vehicle Identification (AVI) System is no longer performing to manufacturer specifications. BATA's current maintenance service provider, ACS, has performed the manufacturer recommended maintenance but this has not improved the performance to the expected levels. Staff has determined that more extensive and specialized system tuning by the original manufacturer, Sirit, Inc. is required. Inspecting and repairing any underperforming portion of the AVI system could potentially improve toll tag read rates throughout the system. This project is part of the toll violation enforcement improvement strategies that the BATA Oversight Committee reviewed and adopted in March 2008.

### **Contractor Selection**

Staff is requesting authorization to negotiate a sole source contract with Sirit Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$300,000. This authorization will fund a prototype project at the Antioch Bridge toll plaza that will determine if inspection and repairs of the FasTrak® antennas can achieve noticeable reductions in tag read failures. Based on the results of the prototype at the Antioch Bridge, BATA will expand the project to include twenty additional FasTrak® dedicated lanes to improve tag read rate and reduce the number of unnecessary violations processed by the FasTrak® Customer Service Center.

Sirit's workscope includes responsibility for all work necessary to evaluate and bring the AVI up to an acceptable condition including but not limited to a comprehensive inspection of all AVI equipment, driving test vehicles through lanes to validate performance, providing necessary lane closures and performing any corrective work. The budget for the lane evaluation and corrective work is as follows:

<b>Work Activity</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Antioch Bridge Prototype	
Lane Evaluation	\$37,000
Corrective Work	\$10,000
Other Bridges	
Lane Evaluation	\$178,700
Corrective Work	\$74,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>

Sirit Inc. is the single provider with the experience and technical knowledge necessary to achieve significant AVI System improvements. Sirit was the vendor and original manufacturer of the originally installed AVI equipment and was part of the system installation team for the toll lanes at the state-owned bridges. Sirit is also the provider of the BATA procured Title-21 compliant toll tags that work with AVI System.

### **Recommendation**

Because of Sirit's unique capabilities and knowledge of the entire AVI System through their previous experience as original equipment vendor, manufacturer, installation contractor and provider of toll tags, staff recommends that the BATA Oversight Committee authorize the Executive Director or his designee to negotiate and enter into a sole source contract with Sirit Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.

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Andrew B. Fremier

## REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

### Summary of Contract Amendment

Work Item No.:	1252
Vendor:	Sirit Inc. Carrollton, TX
Work Project Title:	Automatic Vehicle Identification (AVI) System Tuning
Purpose of Project:	Reduce the Number of Unnecessary Violations
Brief Scope of Work:	Inspect and repair AVI in twenty-three toll lanes
Project Cost Not to Exceed:	\$300,000
Funding Source:	Toll Funds
Fiscal Impact:	Project costs are consistent with funds programmed and budgeted in the BATA Toll Bridge Rehabilitation Program.
Motion by Committee:	That the Executive Director or his designee is authorized to negotiate and enter into a contract with Sirit Inc. to inspect and repair the AVI system in twenty-three toll lanes and the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to set aside funds up to \$300,000 for such contract.
BATA Oversight Chair:	<hr/> Steve Kinsey
Approved:	Date: April 9, 2008